

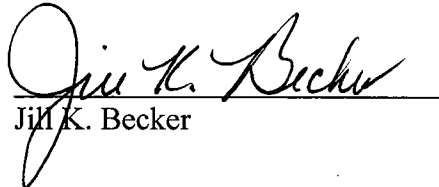
**RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.116  
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE  
EXAMINING GROUP 2186**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicants: Curran et al. Confirmation No.: 9989  
Serial No.: 10/602,159 Group Art Unit: 2186  
Filed: 06/24/2003 Examiner: Hetul B. Patel  
Title: EFFICIENT METHOD FOR COPYING AND CREATING BLOCK-LEVEL  
INCREMENTAL BACKUPS OF LARGE FILES AND SPARSE FILES

**CERTIFICATE OF ELECTRONIC TRANSMISSION**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted electronically to: Examiner Hetul B. Patel, Group Art Unit 2186, United States Patent and Trademark Office, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on December 7, 2006.

  
Jill K. Becker

Date of Signature: December 7, 2006.

To: Mail Stop AF  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**Response To Final Office Action**

Dear Sir:

This Response to Office Action is being submitted in reply to the Office Action mailed September 7, 2006 for the above-referenced patent application.

**Amendments to the claims** begin on page 2 of this Response.

**Remarks** begin on page 6 of this Response.